

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Pat Donovan
Rm 544

18 FEB 1993

MM Doc 93-266

IN REPLY REFER TO:

8310-MEA
CN9300090

RECEIVED

MAR 22 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Larry Combest
House of Representatives
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Combest:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of J. C. Chapman of Amarillo, Texas. Your constituent objects to rate increases by his cable television operator.

The Commission has a clear understanding that Congress adopted the Cable Act of 1992 to constrain unreasonable cable rates. The Commission is in the process of formulating rules implementing the rate provisions of the law and is seeking public comment on those provisions that address rate rollbacks, refunds, and evasions of statutory requirements. The Commission will attempt

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA (857)
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LARRY COMBEST
19TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

ROOM 1527
LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4005

ROOM 613
FEDERAL BUILDING
LUBBOCK, TX 79401
(806) 763-1611

ROOM 601
419 WEST 4TH STREET
ODESSA, TX 79761
(915) 337-1669

mmb
CA TV - fern
90

January 5, 1993

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim
Director, Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
Room 808
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Solheim:

Please find enclosed copies of correspondence from three of my constituents. I would appreciate any assistance or information you can provide regarding this matter.

Thank you in advance for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Larry
Larry Combest

LC/blb
Enclosures

DEC 10 1992

136226
12/10/92
U.S. Rep. Larry Combest
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

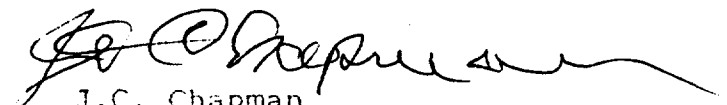
Larry:

Here in Amarillo, we need your assistance.

The local cable company. TCA Cable of Amarillo, has just raised our local rates. They are the only cable company in Amarillo. That is a monopoly, I do believe, in fact I know it is. The last cable bill you members of Congress passed. I thought, was to protect the consumer. It did not work.

The cable company raised our rates from 30.40 a month, to 32.72. That is not a big increase, however it was a big increase for us that are on fixed incomes.

Can anything be done about this? Would you please let me know?


J.C. Chapman
5206 W37th
Amarillo, TX 79109-4222
12-07-92
806-355-3500

CCB is handling
this. for

13450
PAGE.002

ATTN: BA 20 12/17/92 DATE: 12-15 BY: dab

NAME Mr. Scott Stephenson

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 362

CITY: Reese AFB, TX ZIP 79489

PHONE: HM _____ WK _____

TO COMEST * * * * *

_____ Supports _____ Opposes

H.R. _____

ISSUE: _____

Comments: Mr. Stephenson does a lot of travelling, particularly in small rural communities. Many times when he has tried to use a pay phone in these towns, he has problems getting access to his own long distance carrier. The company that installed the phone has somehow restricted his access to this carrier. Can't we prohibit this? What can Congress do?

DEC 15 '92 16:47

DEC 15 '92 17:32

136/67
GA
12/8/92

cc: handling
is this for

December 1, 1992

DEC 07 1992

Dear Sirs:

I am refusing to pay for these calls as billed as they are unreasonable from Gainesville to Bonita, Texas, a distance of about 25 miles - \$4.85 for five minutes is a rip-off. From Henryetta, Okla., to Webbers Falls is about 40 miles - for seven minutes - \$4.44 is unreasonable - a rip-off. Copies of this are going to Congressman Larry Combest, Senator Gramm and Senator Bentson. I am not refusing to pay these bills but just want to know why they cost so much. I dialed direct from the motel room on both calls. No operator was involved except to get my credit card number. Any questions feel free to call me.

T. L. Surratt

T. L. Surratt
3736 Fairmont
Odessa, TX 79762 Phone: 915/363-0937

cc: Larry Combest ✓
Senator Phil Gramm
Senator Bentson



ACCOUNT NUMBER 915 363 0937 523
NOVEMBER 17, 1992
DETAIL OF CHARGES

PAGE 12

NO	DATE	TIME	PLACE CALLED	AREA	NUMBER	*	MIN	AMOUNT
BILLED ON BEHALF OF BRANSON TELEPHONE								
2	10	18	716PM ODESSA TX	915	363 0937 EC		2	
			CR CARD FROM BRANSON MO	417	335 5900			2.85

TOTAL ITEMIZED CALLS FOR ZERO PLUS DIALING

7.70



ACCOUNT NUMBER 915 363 0937 523
NOVEMBER 17, 1992
DETAIL OF CHARGES

PAGE 11

SUMMARY OF CHARGES FOR ZERO PLUS DIALING

ITEMIZED CALLS (SEE DETAIL) 7.70

CHARGES BEFORE TAXES 7.70

FEDERAL TAX .23

STATE AND LOCAL TAXES .35

TOTAL 8.28

ZERO PLUS DIALING BILLING INQUIRIES 1-800-460-0756

ITEMIZED CALLS FOR ZERO PLUS DIALING

NO	DATE	TIME	PLACE CALLED	AREA	NUMBER	*	MIN	AMOUNT
BILLED ON BEHALF OF U.S. OSIRIS								
1	10	20	1211PM BONITA TX	817	987 3401 DS		5	
			CR CARD FROM GAINESVL TX	817	665 5555			4.85 #

- See Reverse

THANK YOU FOR PAYING BY MAIL



ACCOUNT NUMBER 915 363 0937 523
NOVEMBER 17, 1992
DETAIL OF CHARGES

PAGE 10

SUMMARY OF CHARGES FOR TELECOM*USA

ITEMIZED CALLS (SEE DETAIL) 4.44

CHARGES BEFORE TAXES 4.44

FEDERAL TAX .13

STATE AND LOCAL TAXES .00

TOTAL 4.57

TELECOM*USA BILLING INQUIRIES 1-800-277-7558

ITEMIZED CALLS FOR TELECOM*USA

NO	DATE	TIME	PLACE CALLED	AREA	NUMBER	*	MIN	AMOUNT
1	10	17	740PM WEBBERSFLS OK	918	464 2813 NS		7	
			CR CARD FROM HENRYETTA OK	918	652 2533			4.44

TOTAL ITEMIZED CALLS FOR TELECOM*USA

4.44

- See Reverse

THANK YOU FOR PAYING BY MAIL

OVER - - - - -